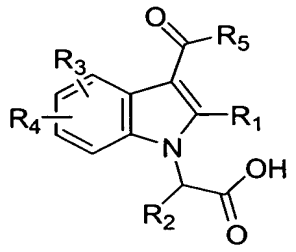
WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. Compounds of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is hydrogen, C_2-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, or C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups may be optionally substituted with halogen, -CN, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_2 is hydrogen, or C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, thienyl, CH_2-thienyl, furanyl, CH_2-furanyl, oxazoyl, CH_2-oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, CH_2-naphthyl, wherein the alkyl group and the rings of the cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, and napthyl groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -CO_2R_6, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_4 is C_3-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzo[*b*]furan-2-yl, benzo[*b*]thien-2-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, naphthyl, wherein the alkyl groups and the rings of the cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, and naphthyl groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -$C(O)OR_6$, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_5 is C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, pyridinyl, -CH_2-pyridinyl, thienyl, CH_2-thienyl, furanyl, CH_2-furanyl, oxazoyl, CH_2-oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzo[*b*]furan-2-yl, benzo[*b*]thien-2-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, naphthyl, CH_2-naphyl, *9H*-fluoren-1-yl, *9H*-fluoren-4-yl, *9H*-fluoren-9-yl, 9-fluorenone-1-yl, 9-fluorenone-2-yl, 9-fluorenone-4-yl, CH_2-*9H*-fluoren-9-yl, wherein the alkyl group and the rings of the cycloalkyl, pyridinyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, napthyl, fluorenyl, and fluorenone groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, phenoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -CO_2R_6, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2, wherein the phenoxy group may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, or C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl; and

R_6 is C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, or benzyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester form thereof.

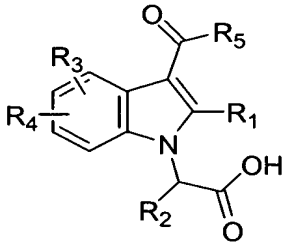
2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_1-R_3 and R_5-R_6 are as defined in claim 1, and R_4 is thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzo[*b*]furan-2-yl, benzo[*b*]thien-2-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, or naphthyl, wherein the rings of the thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, and napthyl groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -CO_2R_8, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2.

3. The compound of claim 1 which is [3-(4-chlorobenzoyl)-5-(4-chlorophenyl)-*1H*-indol-1-yl]acetic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester form thereof.

4. The compound of claim 1 which is [3-(Benzo[*b*]thiophene-2-carbonyl)-5-(4-methylphenyl)-*1H*-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester form thereof.

5. The compound of claim 1 which is [3-(4-chlorobenzoyl)- 5-(4-methylphenyl)-*1H*-indol-1-yl]-acetic acid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester form thereof.

6. A method of inhibiting in a mammal plasminogen activator inhibitor type 1, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R_1 is hydrogen, C_2-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, or C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, wherein the alkyl and cycloalkyl groups may be optionally substituted with halogen, -CN, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_2 is selected from hydrogen, or C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, thienyl, CH_2-thienyl, furanyl, CH_2-furanyl, oxazoyl, CH_2-oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, CH_2-naphthyl, wherein the alkyl group and the rings of the cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, and napthyl groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -CO_2R_6, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_4 is C_3-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 alkenyl, C_3-C_6 alkynyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzo[*b*]furan-2-yl, benzo[*b*]thien-2-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, naphthyl, wherein the alkyl group and the rings of the cycloalkyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, and napthyl groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -$C(O)OR_6$, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2;

R_5 is C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, pyridinyl, -CH_2-pyridinyl, thienyl, CH_2-thienyl, furanyl, CH_2-furanyl, oxazoyl, CH_2-oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzo[*b*]furan-2-yl, benzo[*b*]thien-2-yl, benzo[1,3]dioxol-5-yl, naphthyl, CH_2-naphyl, *9H*-fluoren-1-yl, *9H*-fluoren-4-yl, *9H*-fluoren-9-yl, 9-fluorenone-1-yl, 9-fluorenone-2-yl, 9-fluorenone-4-yl, CH_2-*9H*-fluoren-9-yl, wherein the alkyl group and the rings of the cycloalkyl, pyridinyl, thienyl, furanyl, oxazoyl, phenyl, benzyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, napthyl, fluorenyl, and fluorenone groups may be optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -O-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, -S-C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl, C_1-C_3 alkoxy, phenoxy, -$OCHF_2$, -CN, -COOH, -CH_2CO_2H, -$C(O)CH_3$, -CO_2R_6, -$C(O)NH_2$, -$S(O)_2CH_3$, -OH, -NH_2, or -NO_2, wherein the phenoxy group maybe optionally substituted by from 1 to 3 groups selected from halogen, C_1-C_3 alkyl, or C_1-C_3 perfluoroalkyl; and

R_6 is selected from C_1-C_6 alkyl, C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, -CH_2-C_3-C_6 cycloalkyl, or benzyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or ester form thereof.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutical carrier.

8. A method for treatment of thrombosis or fibrinolytic impairment in a mammal, the method comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

9. A method of Claim 8 wherein the thrombosis or fibrinolytic impairment is associated with formation of atherosclerotic plaques, venous and arterial thrombosis, myocardial ischemia, atrial fibrillation, deep vein thrombosis, coagulation syndromes, pulmonary fibrosis, cerebral thrombosis, thromboembolic complications of surgery or peripheral arterial occlusion.

10. A method for the treatment of peripheral arterial disease in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

11. A method for the treatment of stroke associated with or resulting from artrial fibrillation in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

12. A method for the treatment of deep vein thrombosis in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

13. A method for the treatment of myocardial ischemia in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

14. A method for the treatment of a cardiovascular disease caused by noninsulin dependent diabetes mellitus in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

15. A method for the treatment of the formation of atherosclerotic plaques in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

16. A method for the treatment of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

17. A method for the treatment of renal fibrosis in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

18. A method for the treatment of polycystic ovary syndrome in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

19. A method for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim1.

20. A method for the treatment of cancer in a mammal, comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.